

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 SS-15
SP-02 PM-05 L-03 INR-10 CIAE-00 ACDA-12 /074 W
-----006486 202336Z /61

O R 202201Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1162
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L NASSAU 1321

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO AMB. ALDRICH, S/AR AND ARA/CAR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, MARR, BF, US
SUBJECT: FACILITIES NEGOTIATIONS

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS PERMSEC RUSSELL TELEPHONED CHARGE
AFTERNOON JUNE 20 ASKING THAT EMBASSY BE ALERTED TO IMMINENT
ARRIVAL OF TWO HAND-CARRIED MESSAGES: (1) A RESPONSE TO LETTERS
OF APRIL 26TH, 1978 AND MAY 16, 1978 FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF
TODMAN. TEXT OF ADDERLEY'S LETTER (THE ORIGINAL WHICH IS BEING
POUCHED, READS AS FOLLOWS:
20 JUNE, 1978

DEAR MR. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE:

I REFER TO YOUR LETTER TO ME OF THE 26 APRIL, 1978 WHICH
WAS DELIVERED TO ME BY YOUR GOVERNMENT'S EMBASSY IN NASSAU.

I SHARE YOUR EXPRESSED PLEASURE THAT OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE
BEEN ABLE TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN AGREEMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE
UNDERSTANDING IN PRINCIPLE THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT'S FACILITIES MAY
REMAIN IN THE BAHAMAS. I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR
ALDRICH AND AM CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE OUR
NEGOTIATIONS IN THE SAME SPIRIT WHICH HAS CHARACTERISED PREVIOUS
DISCUSSIONS WHICH I HAVE HAD WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF YOUR
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GOVERNMENT IN THE PAST.

I THINK IT IMPORTANT THAT WE PURSUE NOW THE RESOLUTION OF THE
TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT WHICH IT IS PROPOSED BE ENTERED INTO AND I
HOPE THAT THE NEXT ROUND OF TALKS WHICH ARE HELD WILL MAKE SOME
FURTHER CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRESS TO SETTLE THESE TERMS. I DO NOT
CONSIDER THIS A PURELY TECHNICAL OR DRAFTING MATTER AS BEFORE THE
ACTUAL WORDS IN THE DOCUMENT CAN BE FINALISED SOME IMPORTANT

PRINCIPLES WILL HAVE TO BE RESOLVED. THIS WILL REQUIRE A RECONCILIATION OF WHAT I REGARD AS LEGITIMATE DIFFERENCES WHICH WE HAVE AND ARE IMPLICIT IN THE MEANS BY WHICH YOUR GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE TO PROTECT THE INTEREST OF ITS NATIONALS AND THE MEANS BY WHICH MY GOVERNMENT MUST DISCHARGE ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO THE BAHAMAS DIFFER.

WHILE I HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO DISCUSSING WITH AMBASSADOR ALDRICH ANY MATTER RELEVANT TO THE CONCLUSION OF A DEFINITIVE AGREEMENT, I THINK YOU OUGHT TO KNOW THAT IN MARCH WHEN YOUR DELEGATION WAS IN NASSAU, NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON AN AGENDA FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF DISCUSSIONS, INDEED NO NEW AGENDA WAS EVEN DISCUSSED WITH ME OR AGREED TO BY ANY PERSON PARTICIPATING IN THOSE DISCUSSIONS.

I HAVE NOTED YOUR FORMAL COMMENT WITH REGARD TO THE LENGTH OF THE AGREEMENT WHICH YOUR GOVERNMENT WOULD PREFER BUT AT THE SAME TIME I HAVE TO SAY THAT IT HAD BEEN MY GOVERNMENT'S WISH THAT THE AGREEMENT BE FOR A PERIOD OF 10 YEARS EXPIRING ON THE 10 JULY, 1983. IT WAS NOT UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1977 THAT THE PRIME MINISTER INDICATED TO THE PRESIDENT THAT THERE WOULD BE NO OBJECTION TO THE AGREEMENT BEING FOR 15 YEARS EXPIRING ON THE 10 JULY 1988. AT THAT TIME THIS CONSTITUTED A MAJOR CONCESSION ON BEHALF OF THE BAHAMAS GOVERNMENT AND WAS IN ACCORD WITH THE AGREEMENT WHICH WAS THEN BEING SOUGHT BY YOUR GOVERNMENT. IN CONSEQUENCE, THE TEXT OF THE REVISED NEGOTIATING DRAFT WHICH HAVE JUST NOW BEEN SUBMITTED TO YOUR GOVERNMENT FOR CONSIDERATION IS IN THE EXACT TERMS OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT SUBMITTED BY YOUR GOVERNMENT WHICH PROVIDED FOR THE EXPIRATION OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE 10 JULY, 1988.

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I HAVE NOTED YOUR COMMENT THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT LACKS LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY TO MAKE RETROACTIVE PAYMENTS. IT WOULD NOT BE THE INTENTION OF MY GOVERNMENT TO REQUEST PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION IN A FASHION WHICH WAS NOT AUTHORISED BY THE LAWS BY WHICH YOUR GOVERNMENT IS BOUND BUT AT THE SAME TIME IT IS NOT THE INTENTION OF MY GOVERNMENT TO SURRENDER THE RIGHTS WHICH YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS ENJOYED IN THE BAHAMAS FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS FREE FROM COMPENSATION. I AM CONFIDENT THAT A MEANS WILL BE FOUND TO SATISFY THE LEGITIMATE POSITION OF MY GOVERNMENT LAWFULLY AND IN A MANNER WHICH I WOULD THINK YOUR GOVERNMENT WOULD WISH TO SATISFY.

TODAY A TEXT OF AN AGREEMENT WHICH INCORPORATES PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ORIGINAL DRAFTS HAS BEEN DELIVERED TO YOUR GOVERNMENT'S EMBASSY IN NASSAU. THE OPPORTUNITY HAS BEEN TAKEN TO AMALGAMATE THE TEXT OF THE RELEVANT ORIGINAL DRAFTS AS IT APPEARS TO BE A MORE CONVENIENT ARRANGEMENT TO HAVE ALL THESE PROVISIONS IN A SINGLE DOCUMENT.

WITH BEST PERSONAL REGARDS.

YOURS SINCERELY

P.L. ADDERLEY

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

(2) SECOND LETTER, SIGNED BY RUSSELL, TRANSMITS A COMPREHENSIVE

DOCUMENT WITH "CHANGE IN THE NATURE OF AMENDMENTS, ADDITIONS
AND DELETIONS TO THE DRAFT DOCUMENTS ENTITLED FACILITIES PROVISION,
STATUS OF FORCES, AND COMMON PROVISIONS." THE DOCUMENT IS ENTITLED
"A PROVISIONAL NEGOTIATING TEXT" AND ENCOMPASSES PROVISIONS FROM
USG'S DRAFTS AND THE 1963 AUTEC AGREEMENT. (TEXT FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.)
TAYLOR

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, MILITARY BASE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NASSAU01321
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780257-0724
Format: TEL
From: NASSAU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780640/aaaabipc.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 8db24685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Date: 29 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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Subject: FACILITIES NEGOTIATIONS MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS PERMSEC RUSSELL TELEPHONED CHARGE AFTERNOON JUNE 20
ASKING THAT EMBASSY BE ALERTED T
TAGS: MILI, MARR, BF, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8db24685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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